

Application No. 10/604,709
Amendment dated Dec. 31, 2005
Reply to Office action of Oct. 18, 2005

Amendment to the specification:

Please replace paragraph [0010] with the following amended paragraph:

A method and apparatus to simulate an outdoor window for a windowless room is provided. According to one aspect of present invention, users of one embodiment of this invention will be able to see the outdoor scene in a windowless room with the choice of their favorite window coverings simulated on the screen, manipulate the simulated window coverings at their desired openings and positions. In addition, the simulated window is touch-screen operable for window open-close manipulation as outside noise and ambient temperature/wind effects are also simulated. As such, the resulted embodiment of this invention is not only useful as a tool for displaying desired outdoor scene for a windowless room, but also a good decoration item for such room to install.

Please add paragraph [00015.1] after paragraph [00015]:

FIG. 3 also illustrates interrelations among display screen, image processor and breeze/noise level controller. When a user touches the screen to open the window, which forces the image processor to reconstruct the fixed window image, followed by reconstruction of instant simulation images, the display screen will response with new window position, and consequently causes the breeze/noise level controller to update both levels.

Please add paragraph [00016.1] after paragraph [00016]:

Also shown in FIG. 1 is the wind direction, background noise as well as ambient temperature information in camera location is fed to transmitter, passing to image processor. Together with touch-screen operation, when causing a portion of simulated window being opened, simulated noise level and wind breeze level will have the effect being felt like a real window is opened.

Please replace paragraph [0028] with the following amended paragraph:

~~The frame 204 in FIG. 2 can be framed with a wood molding for better look and more similar to a real window.~~ The frame 204 in FIG. 2 also equipped with rim 216, which serves as air duct 218 for introducing conditioned air (conditioned to be ambient air) through air outlet 219, as shown more detailed in cross section A-A at the bottom of FIG. 2. Additional portion of air duct 220 can be served as the inlet of air coming either from outdoor directly, or simply extracting from inner portion (closer to ambient condition than air-conditioned room) of room partitions defined by the drywalls. Breeze 217 illustrates the breeze blowing from bottom and left portion of the rim, when user open bottom portion of window panel through touch-screen operation in the case of two panel window. Strictly speaking, when the user gradually open the bottom panel of the window, a mechanism should be used to gradually open the air outlet of the left and right-handed

portion of the rim such that the breeze blowing will cover the whole open region on the window. However, this will increase much complexity in the rim design and seems unnecessarily complicate for our simulation. Normally, a mini-blind equips with a lift cord 214 for moving the end piece up and down. Since we already have device 205 functions as generic lift cord for all window coverings, item 214 is in the display just for higher simulation fidelity. Similarly, The wand tilter 215 is in the display for the same purpose since it's function has been implemented by device 206.